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August 12, 2003

TO:

Minerals File

FROM:

Lynn Kunzler, Senior Reclamation Biologist

RE:

Site Inspection, Georgia. Pacific Corp. Georgia Pacific Gypsum Quarry, M.041/009,

Sevier County, Utah

Date of Inspection:

August 7, 2003

Time of Inspection:

8:30 p.m.

Conditions:

Clear, warm

Participants:

Michael Jackson, BLM; MaryAnn Wright, Vicky Southwick, Tom Munson and

Lynn Kunzler, DOGM

Purpose of Inspection: To evaluate status of reclamation at the South Pit.

## **Observations:**

Georgia Pacific closed their Sigard wallboard plant about one year ago. Mining in the South Pit area ceased a few months earlier. Reclamation of the South Pit was initiated in 2002 and completed in March of 2003. Several site visits were made by the BLM and the Division during the reclamation phase.

The South Quarry access road, west of Dastrup's private property, has been reduced to about 14 feet wide. This work was mostly done with an excavator and some by ripping with a dozer. The road was not reduced in width at the intersection with the old cross road. To this point the road is on private surface and federal minerals. Once at the BLM line, the road has been completely recontoured with an excavator. The ATV "route" that had been left on the west shoulder has been pulled and recontoured, also. This road on BLM is well recontoured. Some desirable (seeded) vegetation was observed, including four-wing saltbush, forage kochia, Indian ricegrass, globemallow, and sagebrush. Russian thistle and halogeton were doing well. The recontoured portions of the quarry are in good condition with no apparent erosion problems.

## Recommendations:

Continue to monitor the site for progress in vegetation establishment. Also, work with the company as they continue reclamation efforts on other areas of their permit.

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